

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Minoru SUZUKI et al.
Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: 03/12/2004
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b),

within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A1 discloses the technology of changing the allotment of memory domain so that parallel operation of two or more processes can be carried out. (Fig. 1 and lines 1-47 of left portion of page 5.)

Document A2 discloses technology which assigns a part of an empty domain of memory to the process which runs short of domains. (Figs. 4, 5 and lines 1-43 of left portion of page 5.)

Document A3 discloses the technology of a controller which controls image processing by the time rate in order to read both sides of a manuscript simultaneously.

Document A4 discloses technology which chooses processing by hardware and processing by software for the purpose used in JPEG-compression processing. (Fig. 1 and lines 33-42 of left portion of page 6.)

Document A5 discloses technology which controls the speed of the circumference unit connected to the main part of operation according to the speed of a main part. (fig. 1 and lines 2-20 of right portion of page 4.)

Document A6 discloses technology which chooses the case where image processing is performed in parallel to scanning, and the case where it performs in parallel to printing. (Fig. 2 and lines 33-42 of left portion of page 3.)

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

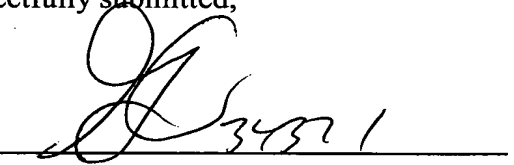
Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the

Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Agarwal', written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the number '34321' is handwritten.

Pavan K. Agarwal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 40,888

Date March 12, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 945-6162

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: March 12, 2004 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	03/12/2004
				First Named Inventor	Minoru SUZUKI
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	016907-1613

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A1	JP	2003-091425	A	RICOH CO., LTD.	03-28-2003		Abstract
	A2	JP	2003-067243	A	RICOH CO., LTD.	03-07-2003		Abstract
	A3	JP	2002-109527	A	RICOH CO., LTD.	04-12-2002		Abstract
	A4	JP	2003-078769	A	CANON INC.	03-14-2003		Abstract
	A5	JP	3-84561	A	RICOH CO., LTD.	04-10-1991		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.